

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
STATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
October 13, 2008**

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Mississippi Valley State University Presidential Search Committee met at the Board Office in Jackson, Mississippi, at 8:00 a.m., and pursuant to notice in writing to each and every member of said Committee, said date being at least five days prior to this October 13, 2008 meeting. At the above-named place there were present the following Committee members to wit: Dr. Bettye Henderson Neely (Chair), Dr. Stacy Davidson, Mr. Bob Owens, Mr. Alan Perry, and Ms. Amy Whitten. The following Mississippi Valley State University Interview Search Advisory Committee members were present to wit: Dr. Moses Newsome, Jr., Vice President, Research, Planning, Community, and Economic Development and Chairman of the Search Advisory Committee; Dr. Gwendolyn Catchings, Vice-President of the Faculty Senate and Assistant Professor of Business Administration; Mr. Edgar Bland, Director of Academic Computing Services; Ms. Carolyn Upkins, President of the Mississippi Valley State University Alumni Association; Dr. Walter Roberts, President of the Mississippi Valley State University Foundation; and Dr. Abigail Newsome, Director and Assistant Professor of Bioinformatics. MVSU Interview Search Advisory Committee member, Ms. Brandy Brown, Student Government Association President, was absent. The search consultant, Ms. Jan Greenwood of Greenwood/Asher & Associates, Inc. in Miramar, Florida; Ms. Marion Frenche, an associate with Greenwood/Asher & Associates, Inc.; and Board members Mr. Ed Blakeslee, Mr. Aubrey Patterson and Mr. C.D. Smith also attended the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Neely.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion by Ms. Whitten, seconded by Dr. Davidson, and unanimously passed by those present, the Committee voted to close the meeting to determine whether or not it should declare an Executive Session. On motion by Ms. Whitten, seconded by Mr. Perry, and unanimously passed by those present, the Committee **voted to go into Executive Session** for the reason reported to the public and stated in these minutes, as follows:

Discussion of a personnel matter at Mississippi Valley State University.

During Executive Session, the following matters were discussed and/or voted upon:

The Mississippi Valley State University Presidential Search Committee conducted a second round of interviews for the five final candidates.

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Davidson, and unanimously passed by those present, the Committee recommended that the Board approve Dr. Donna Oliver, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Florida, as the preferred candidate for the position of President at Mississippi Valley State University. On Tuesday, October 21, 2008, Dr. Oliver will participate in open, day-long interviews on the MVSU campus with various university and community constituency groups.

On motion by Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Perry, and unanimously passed by those present, the Committee voted to return to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, on motion by Dr. Davidson, seconded by Mr. Perry, and unanimously passed by those present, the Committee members voted to adjourn.



President, Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning